AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-29.   (Canceled).

30. (Currently Amended)   A   communications   method for a communication system having a transmitting end and receiving end, which uses in which a payload of a data packet is composed of a plurality of error correction blocks, each error correction block having a of block-type error correction code codes, comprising the steps of:

performing error correction decoding for each of said plurality of error correction blocks in said data packet at a receiving end;

transmitting an error correction state of each of said error correction blocks block from said receiving end to a transmitting end; and

extending the size of the payload of a packet to be transmitted next or subsequently from the transmitting end by adding a an error correction block, a retransmission of which has been requested, to a block the error correction blocks in a the data packet to be transmitted next or subsequently from the transmitting end, thereby increasing a the number of error correction blocks in the data packet to be transmitted next or subsequently for transmission.

31. (Previously Presented)   The communications method as set forth in Claim 30, wherein:

the data packet contains a retransmission-block field where the block, a retransmission of which has been requested, is added, the field being not used in an ordinary state where there is no retransmission request; and

if a retransmission of more blocks than the retransmission-block field has been requested, some blocks to be transmitted in the data packet to which are added the blocks, a retransmission of which has been requested, are added to a subsequent data packet for transmission using the retransmission-block fields.

32. (Previously Presented)   The communications method as set forth in Claim 30, wherein said error correction state of each error correction block includes identification information of a block that is most lately outputted from said transmitting end, among blocks received by said receiving end.

33. (Previously Presented)   The communications method as set forth in Claim 30, wherein said error correction state of each error correction block includes identification information of a block last outputted from said transmitting end, among blocks received by said receiving end and a number of blocks for which error-correction decoding has finished.

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34. (Currently Amended) A communications apparatus, which transmits a data packet, a payload for the data packet is composed of a plurality of blocks, so as to communicate, comprising:

a ~~receiving~~ receiver end performing error correction decoding for each of said plurality of blocks received from a ~~transmitting~~ transmitter end;

said ~~transmitting~~ transmitter end, when having received a request for a retransmission of an undecodable block from said ~~receiving~~ receiver end, extending the size of the payload of the data packet to be transmitted next or subsequently from the transmitter end by adding the block, a retransmission of which has been requested, to ~~a block~~ the blocks constituting ~~a~~ the data packet to be transmitted next or subsequently, thereby increasing ~~a~~ the number of blocks in the data packet to be transmitted next or subsequently ~~for transmission~~.

35. (Previously Presented) The communications apparatus as set forth in Claim 34, wherein:

the data packet contains a retransmission-block field where the block, a retransmission of which has been requested, is added, the field being not used in an ordinary state where there is no retransmission request; and

if a retransmission of more blocks than the retransmission-block field has been requested, some blocks to be transmitted in the data packet to which are added the blocks, a retransmission of which has been requested, are added to a subsequent data packet for transmission using the retransmission-block fields.

36.   (Previously Presented) The communications apparatus as set forth in Claim 34, wherein the block, a retransmission of which has been requested, is added at a head of the data packet to be transmitted next or subsequently.

37. (Previously Presented)   The communications apparatus as set forth in Claim 34, wherein the block, a retransmission of which has been requested, is added between a head and a tail of the data packet to be transmitted next or subsequently.

38. (Previously Presented)   The communications apparatus as set forth in Claim 34, wherein the block, a retransmission of which has been requested, is added at a tail of the data packet to be transmitted next or subsequently.

39. (Previously Presented)   The communications apparatus as set forth in Claim 34, wherein the data packet has a fixed number of blocks.

40. (Previously Presented) The communications apparatus as set forth in Claim 34, wherein the data packet has a variable number of blocks.

41. (Currently Amended) A communications apparatus, which transmits a data packet, a payload of the data packet is composed of a plurality of blocks, each block having a ~~of~~ block-type error correction code ~~codes~~ so as to communicate, comprising:

a ~~receiving~~ receiver end performing error correction decoding for each of said plurality of blocks received from a ~~transmitting~~ transmitter end;

said ~~transmitting~~ transmitter end, when having received a request for a retransmission of an undecodable block from said ~~receiving~~ receiver end, extending the size of the payload of the data packet to be transmitted next or subsequently from the transmitter end by adding the block, a retransmission of which has been requested, to a ~~block~~ the blocks constituting ~~a~~ the data packet to be transmitted next or subsequently, thereby increasing ~~a~~ the number of blocks in the data packet to be transmitted next or subsequently ~~for transmission~~.

42. (Previously Presented) The communications apparatus as set forth in Claim 41, wherein:

the data packet contains a retransmission-block field where the block, a retransmission of which has been requested, is added,

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the field being not used in an ordinary state where there is no
retransmission request; and

if a retransmission of more blocks than the retransmission-
block field has been requested, some blocks to be transmitted in
the data packet to which are added the blocks, a retransmission of
which has been requested, are added to a subsequent data
packet for transmission using the retransmission-block field.

43. (Previously Presented)   The communications apparatus as set
forth in Claim 41, wherein the block, a retransmission of which
has been requested, is added at a head of the data packet to be
transmitted next or subsequently.

44. (Previously Presented)   The communications apparatus as set
forth in Claim 41, wherein the block, a retransmission of which
has been requested, is added between a head and a tail of the
data packet to be transmitted next or subsequently.

45. (Previously Presented)   The communications apparatus as set
forth in Claim 41, wherein the block, a retransmission of which
has been requested, is added at a tail of the data packet to be
transmitted next or subsequently.

46. (Previously Presented)   The communications apparatus as set
forth in Claim 41, wherein the data packet has a fixed number of
blocks.

47. (Previously Presented)   The communications apparatus as set forth in Claim 41, wherein the data packet has a variable number of blocks.

48. (Withdrawn) A communications apparatus, which receives a data packet composed of a plurality of blocks, wherein:

the communications apparatus selects only an undecodable block out of the data packet that has been received and makes a retransmission request; and

the retransmission request includes an identification of a last outputted block in the data packet that has been received.

49. (Withdrawn) A communications apparatus, which receives a data packet composed of a plurality of blocks, wherein:

the communications apparatus selects only an undecodable block out of the data packet that has been received and makes a retransmission request; and

the retransmission request includes an identification of a last outputted block in the data packet that has been received and a number of blocks for which error-correction decoding has finished.

50. (Currently Amended)   A communications system, including: a communications apparatus which receives a data packet, a payload of the data packet is composed of a plurality of blocks, performs error correction decoding on said plurality of blocks, selects

only an undecodable block out of said plurality of blocks, and transmits a request for a retransmission of the undecodable block; and another communications apparatus which transmits a data packet, a payload of the data packet is composed of a plurality of blocks and when having received a request for a retransmission of an undecodable block, extends the size of the payload of the data packet to be transmitted next or subsequently by addingadds the block, a retransmission of which has been requested, to a block the blocks constituting a the data packet to be transmitted next or subsequently, thereby increasing a number of blocks in the data packet for transmission to be transmitted next or subsequently,

a data packet receiving end transmits, to a data packet transmitting end, a request for a retransmission of only an undecodable block out of a data packet that has been received; and

the data packet transmitting end, in response to the request for a retransmission, retransmits a corresponding block.

51. (Currently Amended)   A communications system, including: a communications apparatus which receives a data packet, a payload of the data packet is composed of a plurality of blocks, performs error correction decoding on said plurality of blocks, selects only an undecodable block out of plurality of blocks that has been

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received, and transmits a request for a retransmission of the undecodable block; and another communications apparatus which transmits a data packet, a payload of the data packet is composed of a plurality of blocks of block-type error correction codes, and when having received a request for a retransmission of an undecodable block, extends the size of the payload of a data packet to be transmitted next of subsequently by adding~~adds~~ the block, a retransmission of which has been requested, to ~~a block~~ the blocks constituting ~~a~~ the data packet to be transmitted next or subsequently, thereby increasing ~~a~~ the number of blocks in the data packet to be transmitted next or subsequently ~~for transmission~~,

a data packet receiving end transmits, to a data packet transmitting end, a request for a retransmission of only an undecodable block out of a data packet that has been received; and

the data packet transmitting end, in response to the request for a retransmission, retransmits a corresponding block.